

Codebook

Awareness of Executive Interference and the Demand for Judicial Independence: Evidence from Four Constitutional Courts

Variable	Description
demand	<p>Demand for Judicial Independence. Survey question: <i>Do you think the [President/Prime Minister] has too much, too little, or about the right amount of influence over the [COUNTRY] [Supreme/Constitutional Court]?</i></p> <p>Continuous. Values: 0 = Too little influence; 1 = Just the right amount of influence; 2 = Too much influence.</p>
demand_ord	<p>Ordinal version of demand.</p>
exec_infl	<p>Perceived Executive Influence. Survey question: <i>To what extent do you think the [President/Prime Minister] influences the rulings that the [Supreme/Constitutional Court] makes?</i></p> <p>Continuous. Values: 1 = Not at all; 2 = A small extent; 3 = A moderate extent; 4 = A great extent.</p>
aware_ct	<p>Awareness of High Court. Survey question: <i>Would you say that you are very aware, somewhat aware, not very aware, or have you never heard of the [Supreme/Constitutional Court], that is, one of the [COUNTRY] courts?</i></p> <p>Continuous. Values: 1 = Have never heard of; 2 = Not very aware; 3 = Very aware; 4 = Somewhat aware.</p>
df_support	<p>Diffuse Support for High Court. Scaled measure based on the variables <code>doaway_ct</code>, <code>strip_ct</code>, <code>mixed_ct</code>, <code>judges_rm_ct</code>, and <code>less_ind_ct</code>. Appendix D provides more information about the construction of this variable.</p> <p>Continuous. Values: 0-1. Higher values indicate more diffuse support.</p>
perf_ct	<p>Specific Support for High Court. Survey question: <i>How well do you think the [Supreme/Constitutional Court] does its main job in government?</i></p> <p>Continuous. Values: 1 = Poor job; 2 = Not a very good job; 3 = Pretty good job; 4 = Great job.</p>
ideo10	<p>Ideology. Continuous. Values: 1 to 10 (from left to right).</p>

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copartisan	<p>Government Supporter. Question: <i>If this election were held next week, which party would you be most likely to vote for?</i></p> <p>Binary. Values: 0 = Vote for a party opposed to the incumbent; 1 = Vote for a party aligned with the incumbent.</p>
pol_interest	<p>Political Interest. Survey question: <i>How often do you pay attention to what's going on in government and politics?</i></p> <p>Continuous. Values: 1 = Never; 2 = Some of the time; 3 = About half of the time; 4 = Most of the time.</p>
strong_lead	<p>Support for a Strong Leader. Survey question: <i>Which of the following statements is closest to your view?</i></p> <p>Binary. Values: 1 = We need a strong leader who does not have to be elected by the vote of the people; 0 = Although things may not always work, electoral democracy, or the popular vote, is always best.</p>
know_ct	<p>Knowledge of the Court. Based on respondents' answer to two questions asking whether the Justices of the high court serve for a life term or a set number of years, and if decisions handed down by the high court were final or could be appealed to a higher body or institution (see Appendix B for more information).</p> <p>Continuous. Values: 0 = No correct answer; 1 = One correct answer; 2 = Two correct answers.</p>
age	<p>Respondents' age</p>
gender	<p>Respondents' sex. Values: 0 = Male; 1 = Female.</p>
doaway_ct	<p>Do Away with the Court. Survey question: <i>To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? If the [Constitutional Court/Tribunal] started making a lot of decisions that most people disagree with, it might be better to do away with the [Constitutional Court/Tribunal] altogether.</i></p> <p>Continuous. 1 = Agree Strongly; 2 = Agree; 3 = Don't Know; 4 = Disagree; 5 = Disagree Strongly.</p>

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strip_ct	<p>Strip Jurisdiction of Court. Survey question: <i>To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The right of the [Constitutional Court/Tribunal] to decide certain types of controversial issues should be reduced.</i></p> <p>Continuous. 1 = Agree Strongly; 2 = Agree; 3 = Don't Know; 4 = Disagree; 5 = Disagree Strongly.</p>
mixed_ct	<p>Court Mixed Up. Survey question: <i>To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The [Constitutional Court/Tribunal] gets too mixed up in politics.</i></p> <p>Continuous. 1 = Agree Strongly; 2 = Agree; 3 = Don't Know; 4 = Disagree; 5 = Disagree Strongly.</p>
judges_rm_ct	<p>Remove Judges. Survey question: <i>To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? Judges on the [Constitutional Court/Tribunal] who consistently make decisions at odds with what a majority of the people want should be removed from their position as judge.</i></p> <p>Continuous. 1 = Agree Strongly; 2 = Agree; 3 = Don't Know; 4 = Disagree; 5 = Disagree Strongly.</p>
less_ind_ct	<p>Less Independent. Survey question: <i>To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement? The [Constitutional Court/Tribunal] ought to be made less independent so that it listens a lot more to what the people want.</i></p> <p>Continuous. 1 = Agree Strongly; 2 = Agree; 3 = Don't Know; 4 = Disagree; 5 = Disagree Strongly.</p>
country	<p>Respondents' country (United States, Germany, Hungary, or Poland).</p>